

**From:** Beth [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10 August 2021 22:47  
**To:** localplans@charnwood.gov.uk  
**Subject:** Re: Local Plan HA63/Zouch Rd Consultation

To Whom This May Concern

[REDACTED] next to the proposed HA63 site (Zouch Road).

Firstly, I was glad to hear that it is William Davis who are planning to build on this land and not another company as I know they will do a good job and they have a genuine interest in local opinion and will do their best for Hathern.

My points of improvement to raise about the proposal before planning is accepted to be considered please, in order of priority:

1. **Enhance/retain hedgerows and reduce pathways:** On the proposal it looks like they are planning to take some of the hedgerow down between Daisy Bank and proposed estate and I have been told this was a council request. Please do NOT allow this. We all feel very strongly about this. Removing the hedges is not needed in order to build the planned estate and not necessary to enable both estates to thrive. It is important to protect it and critical for it's abundance of wildlife (including protected yellowhammers and bats). It is hundreds of years old and I know the Hathern Wildlife Group are very concerned about this also. We (and all the walkers) enjoy seeing the hedgerow and it's wildlife and it would be of detriment to both the new estate and ours, as well as the Hathern villagers, if ANY of it is pulled down. Hathern is known for it's long standing Hawthorne (after which the name of the village originates)- this must be protected. On this note, there is also no need for as many paths through the hedge (where the hedge would have to be pulled down to allow). In fact, I am aware of original William Davis plans which factored in additional hedgerow in place on the corner to cover the current gap (fabulous and would be welcomed by all and benefit both estates and wildlife too). These plans also showed one path each side; one direct to the playground and one opposite the natural burial ground which looks much better and still gives good access. Having the 2 paths each side shown on the proposal is unnecessary will have a negative impact as mentioned above. The maintenance of the current hedgerow and additional hedgerow in the corner would also allow more privacy and reduce the estates overlooking each other (a benefit to both current and proposed estates). The William Davis proposal also quotes 'enhanced and retained hedgerows' so please allow them to do as stated (and as per their original plans) to both retain it and enhance it (by adding to it over the corner area in particular), thank you.
2. **Move the Orchard/green space:** It is lovely to put an orchard (or a green wooded area might be easier to maintain) on the new estate but this would be better placed between Daisy Bank and the proposed estate to create a better integration/area that can be shared between the 2 estates and closer to the village for all to benefit. In it's proposed site it will not be easily accessible for the majority of both estates or the other Hathern villagers. It would also allow more privacy and reduce the estates overlooking each other. It is currently planned to be next to the main A-road, which importantly has a safety element with regard to children who are likely to be/walk within it.
3. **Change arrangement of housing to reflect current the Daisy Bank Estate:** It would be preferential and more in keeping with the current Daisy Bank estate set up, to have the proposed 'Open market' housing next to the existing 'open market' housing (as opposed to 'affordable') and vice versa rather than the proposed plan. In addition, by placing the proposed 'affordable' housing next to the existing 'open market' housing on Daisy Bank, it will likely lower the market value of the existing Daisy Bank housing that lies adjacent to the proposed site. This would be both upsetting/disappointing and seems unfair when a higher price was paid intentionally to be able to live in these houses/location.
4. **Reduce the number of houses to enhance nature and reduce pressure on infrastructure:** The proposal states 58 houses. It is of concern with this many houses that green areas will be minimal. Increased numbers of houses will create more traffic, and importantly will put more pressure going on to the busy A6006. The road out of the proposed estate is very close to an already busy and awkward junction. The Village school is already oversubscribed (for most years) with the village children sadly having to go elsewhere. Reducing the number of houses will provide some relief to the additional pressure a new housing estate will inevitably add to village

resources such as the GP surgery (which is already struggling to serve the community) and in particular the school. I am aware about Section 106 monies, but this never seems to provide enough relief to the added pressure to existing village infrastructure.

5. **Make sure there is an accessible dog poo bin:** One small but important point please. Please consider a dog poo bin. As a popular place to walk dogs, there are already too many left on the open green area and near the children's playground and in people's front gardens. With another estate this will only exacerbate the problem (and there is currently no nearby dog poo bin at present time for dog walkers)

Please consider taking the above points seriously before agreeing to any planning and you will have much more support (and far less objections) from the villagers and most importantly help to create a happier (and safer) village living existence for this part of Hathern. As mentioned above, maintaining AND enhancing the existing hedgerow is of utmost importance.

Many thanks in advance for your consideration.

Yours faithfully,

Bethan Haswell (and family)

